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### CATHOLIC CRITICS SCORED.

President Roosevelt Receives Strong Endorsement.

St. Paul, July 22.—Archbishop Ireland, in an interview today, reviewing the progress of the negotiations conducted between Judge Taft and the Vatican, took to task certain Catholic organizations that have assumed to question the fairness of the Administration toward their co-religionists. The Archbishop said:

"The Vatican and Governor Taft came easily and quickly to a substantial agreement. The question for the Vatican is, What practical methods are to be adopted to put the agreement into execution? With a little time certain matters now seeming to offer great difficulties will be made, by quiet, skillful touches of pontifical diplomacy, to work themselves out without friction or excitement; and so, when in Manila final conclusions are to be reached, things will have been ripe and will turn out all right. This is the Vatican method of proceeding; it is a wise and prudent method. Mr. Taft understands the matter and leaves Rome thoroughly satisfied and hopeful. There can be no doubt that the active co-operation of the Vatican is now secured to the American Government in its task of pacification in the Philippines, and that in the results to come the Administration at Washington will have ample reason to felicitate itself for having sent Governor Taft to Rome.

"And now it is to be hoped there will be among certain classes of Catholics in America a cessation of movements and declarations such as we have had recent occasion to hear of regarding religious matters in the Philippines. The Pope teaches those Catholics to trust the American Government, as they seemingly have been theretofore unwilling to do. In his conversation with Governor Taft he expressed the highest esteem for American methods of treating church matters, and remarks that he had more than once pointed toward the United States as setting an example well worth copying. His words ought to signify something to those who profess to take him as their leader and guide. At any rate, the direction of Catholic affairs is his business, not that of irresponsible church societies or newspaper editors; and when he informs Catholics that any one matter is in his hands they ought promptly to step aside and allow him to have charge of it. The question of religion in the Philippines is now formally and officially his own, and it should be considered as such. A few there may remain who still believe that they have a better understanding of it than he has and will insist on telling him how to handle it; but such as those are few, and at least it will be clear that they hold no brief whatever form the Catholic body at large.

"It was the rankest rashness and rankest injustice to intimate that the Government intended to proselytize in the Philippines or to do aught to detach the inhabitants from the Catholic faith. To know in the slightest degree Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Root and Mr. Taft is to be certain that nothing of the kind could have been thought of or could have been tolerated. Never did there reside in the White House a man more fair minded and impartial in religious matters, more resolute to give all classes of citizens the religious rights granted them by the Constitution and to protect them in those rights, than Theodore Roosevelt. During his administration it is unquestionably absurd to imagine that Governmental action could be such as to deny or impair the religious rights of any people or tribe over whom floats the American flag."

The Geo. Lawrence saddle sold by L. K. Pearson of Hilo, Hawaii, is built by artist mechanics, and built for comfort and hard use. When your "lio akin" indulges in his playful acrobatics and collides, end on, with high spots only, you don't get sore, and you don't tumble out of the saddle, because it fits your anatomy. The price may seem high, but that is one of the peculiarities of good things, they cost more.

### COLLISION OF SHIPS.

Steamship Primus is Sunk on the River Elbe.

Hamburg, July 21.—The steamship Primus of Hamburg, with 185 passengers on board, was cut in two and sunk by the Tug Hansa on the River Elbe at 12:30 o'clock this morning. So far as is ascertainable, about fifty persons were drowned. Two score of bodies already have been recovered. The Primus was an excursion steamer from Buxtehude, Province of Hanover, Prussia.

The disaster occurred between Blankenese and Nienstedten. Among the passengers were the members of Lilbeck Male Choral Society. At the time of the accident the Primus was crossing the river channel near Blankenese from the southern into the northern fairway. According to witnesses aboard the Hansa the movement was made too precipitately. The Primus struck the tug's engine-room and the Hansa endeavored to push her ashore, but the tug grounded and the ships parted. The Primus then sank.

A terrible panic that occurred on the Primus when the Hansa struck her rendered the efforts to save her passengers almost useless. Fortunately the steamer Dolphin came up immediately and succeeded in saving sixty of those on board the sinking steamer, while other boats assisted in the work of rescue.

Some of the survivors furnish descriptions of the awful suddenness of the disaster. According to their story, the band was playing, and many couples were dancing on deck when the crash of the collision came like a thunderbolt. The vessel gave a great list, her deck taking such an angle that it was impossible for the passengers to keep their feet. Those below scrambled up to the companionways, but most of the persons in the saloon were drowned. Men fought for their own safety regardless of others.

In the midst of the confusion the boilers exploded, adding to the horrors of the scene, and many persons are said to have been injured by flying splinters of metal. More of the Primus' passengers would have been saved by the ropes thrown from the Hansa had it not been that before those who seized the ropes could be hauled on board they were pulled from the lines they had grasped by other persons struggling in the water, and all were drowned in the hideous confusion.

### CZAR MAY ORDER REFORMS.

Situation in Russia is Regarded as Being Very Serious.

London, July 24.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times, dealing with the commission appointed to inquire into the depression of the agricultural population, says: The Government regards the question with the keenest anxiety, and there are indications that the leading Ministers are prepared to consent to sweeping changes in the fiscal policy, and even in the internal organization of the country, if it be proven that such changes are necessary to obviate the danger of starvation among the discontented peasantry.

Russian opinion is divided as to the causes of the depression. Many fixed a large share of the responsibility upon M. de Witte, Minister of Finance, who, they claim, artificially stimulates and encourages the industries and starves the agricultural interests, which are, and must remain, the mainstay of the country. These critics point to the paltriness of the sums devoted from the enormous budget to agriculture and commerce. All the witnesses examined agreed that the initiative must come from above and be accompanied by the extension of peasant education.

### Groesbeck Censured.

Washington, July 21.—By direction of the Secretary of War, General Corbin today wrote to Colonel Groesbeck asking him for an explanation of the interview published this morning regarding the court-martial of Major Waller. Colonel Groesbeck was judge advocate of the court and the opinion expressed at the War Department is that an officer should not talk about such matters.

# SVEA

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Agent for the Hawaiian Islands.

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